

**EVALUATION OF THE INCIDENCE, PREVALENCE AND THERAPEUTIC
MANAGEMENT OF BREAST CANCER PATIENTS IN MOI TEACHING AND
REFERRAL HOSPITAL, ELDORET**

BY

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ABSTRACT

Globally, an estimated 1.38 million cases were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2008 (23% of all cancers). Breast cancer ranks as the second most common cancer overall (10.9% of all cancers). In east Africa the incidence of breast cancer among women was about 17,896 with an estimated 9,956 women dying from the disease in 2008.

Breast cancer is a major public health concern in Kenya today. It remains a widely known fact that indeed the incidence of breast cancer is on the rise among Kenyan women today with more and more women being diagnosed each day. Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital receives new cases of breast cancer each month. Most of these cases are usually at an advanced stage due to poor detection during early stages. This study evaluated incidence, prevalence and therapeutic management of breast cancer patients in MTRH Eldoret. Specifically, the study was focused on determining the incidence of breast cancer, the adjuvant drug therapy of cancer patients, assessed response to chemotherapy regimens and finally the side effects of chemotherapy administered to cancer breast patients in MTRH. A sample size of 35 patients was used. This number was arrived upon by estimating the number of patients that could be involved given the resources of time and finances. The patient knowledge and satisfaction involved 50 patients. Respondents were obtained using simple random sampling technique. Descriptive cross sectional study design was adopted. The data obtained was analyzed using the Microsoft Office Excel 2007 and then presented in tables and graphs and charts. Data was collected using four sets of forms that captured patient's bio-data, pathological assessment, drugs given, the adjuvant drug therapy, compliance monitoring and questionnaire on patient knowledge and satisfaction. Data cleaning was done to check for errors in data entry process. The study took six weeks beginning 25th April to 4th June 2014. It is expected that the information generated from this study would improve pharmaceutical care at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital and significantly benefit the country as a whole in both direct service delivery as well as policy making. The study concludes that Adriamycin and cyclophosphamide was the most commonly used regimen at 65% and the incidence, prevalence has been on the upward trend at 64 in 2008 to 209 cases in 2014. The response rate was based on patient compliance, patient knowledge on the use of medication, and chemotherapy side effects and most patients were compliant at 90%.